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Thus, Damoulakis discloses sampling signals at a predetermined sample rate. However, a predetermined sample rate is not equivalent to a modifiable periodic time. For example, the sample rate may be predetermined before execution of the method and never changed. Further, neither Gong nor Damoulakis disclose or suggests, either separately or in combination, adjusting the periodic time based, at least in part, on determined changes in sampled noise information, as required by claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 and 16 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Gong in view of Damoulakis for at least the reasons provided with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-4 and 16 be withdrawn.

Further, claims 2-4 are further patentable for other reasons. For example, claim 2 and dependent claims 3 and 4 further recite that the method includes periodically determining parameters of a transducer model. Gong discloses a one-time acoustic adaptation of a Hidden Markov Model (HMM) in a low noise environment for a speaker and acoustic environment (see Gong, at col. 1, lines 37-42). Thus, Gong fails to disclose or suggest periodically determining parameters of a transducer model, as required by claims 2-4. Damoulakis also fails to satisfy this deficiency of Gong.

Claim 5 and dependent claims 6-8 and 19 are directed to a system for dynamic re-configurable speech recognition. The system includes, among other things, a background model estimation circuit for determining a background model during a voice request based on estimated background parameters determined at a periodic time during a reception of the voice request, and a controller adapted to adjust the periodic time based, at least in part, on determined changes in sampled noise information. For reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that neither Gong nor Damoulakis disclose or

suggest, either separately or in combination, a controller adapted to adjust the periodic time based, at least in part, on determined changes in sampled noise information, as required by claims 5-8 and 19. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 5-8 and 19 be withdrawn.

Applicants further submit that claims 6-8 are also patentable over the cited references for other reasons. Claim 6 and dependent claims 7 and 8 further recite that the system periodically activates the background model estimation circuit and the transducer model estimation circuit. Thus, this feature is similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 2. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 6-8 are patentable over Gong in view of Damoulakis for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 2.

Amended claim 9 is similar to claim 1 and is patentable over Gong in view of Damoulakis for at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 9 be withdrawn.

Claims 10-12 depend from claim 9 and are patentable for at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 9. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 10-12 be withdrawn.

Applicants further submit that claims 10-12 are also patentable for other reasons. For example, claims 10-12 recite periodically determining new parameters of the transducer model. Applicants submit that this feature is similar to the previously-discussed feature of claim 2. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 10-12 are patentable over Gong in view of Damoulakis for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 2.

Amended independent claim 13 is directed to a computer readable medium that includes computer readable program code for performing a method on a computer including, among other things, adjusting a periodic time based, at least in part, on determined changes in sampled noise information. Applicants submit that claim 13 is patentable over Gong in

view of Damoulakis for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 13 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 14 is directed to a method that includes, among other things, periodically determining user specific parameters of a transducer model. Applicants submit that claim 14 is patentable over Gong in view of Damoulakis for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 14 be withdrawn.

Claims 15, 17, 18 and 20 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thereby making the rejection of these claims moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 15, 17, 18 and 20 be withdrawn.

New Claims 21-24

New claims 21-24 depend either from claim 1 or claim 5 and are patentable for the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1 or claim 5, as well as for other reasons.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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